

Senate Bill 193

Date: January 20, 2022

Committee: Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee

Bill Title: State Board of Plumbing-Sunset Extension

Re: Letter of Support

The Maryland State Board of Plumbing licenses and regulates individuals who provide or assist in providing plumbing and gas services in Maryland. The Board also issues natural gas fitter licenses to qualified individuals who are non-plumbers. Both of these types of licenses are required for work throughout the state except for Baltimore County and the areas served by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). These two jurisdictions issue their own licenses and have their own plumbing code. The State Plumbing Board also issues a certificate to qualified individuals who are non-plumbers to provide propane gas services throughout the entire state.

The board licenses and ensures regulatory compliance for over 12,600 licensees in the above referenced licensing categories.

The Board investigates complaints against licensees and complaints related to unlicensed practice. The Board may pursue disciplinary charges against an individual for violations of applicable laws or regulations, conduct hearings and, if warranted, impose administrative sanctions.

The licensing and regulatory enforcement of the statute and regulations set forth by the board ensure that the citizens of Maryland are protected and that the plumbing services provided by licensed individuals meet the highest standards of education, training, and competency.

For these reasons, the Department respectfully requests a favorable report from the Committee on Senate Bill 193.